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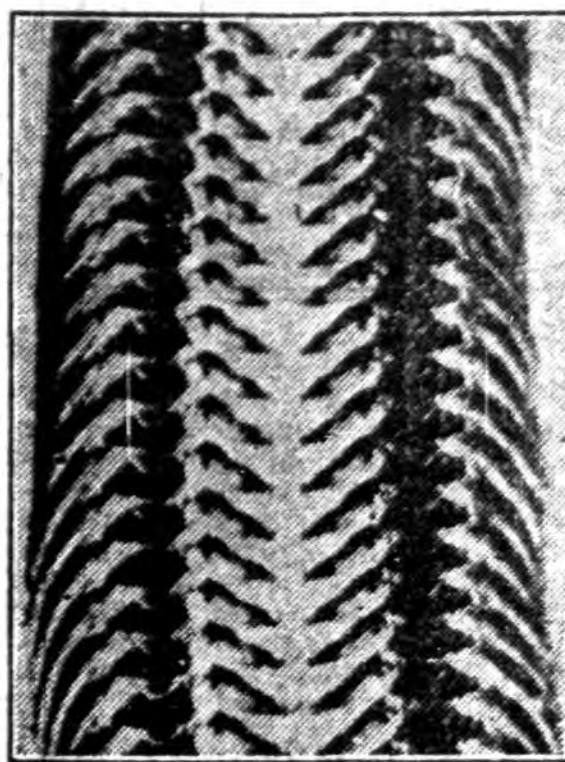
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For the Children

A Section of a
Snail's Tongue.



This queer looking picture is that of a section of the tongue of a snail. The tongue is greatly magnified to show the rasping teeth.

A snail eats by rasping off small particles with the tongue. This tongue is a narrow band or ribbon with pointed teeth set in rows across it. The common slug, often found in damp places, has more than 25,000 teeth on the tongue, which act like the ridges on a file and scrape the food into the mouth. I once watched with a magnifying lens, says a writer in St. Nicholas Magazine, a small water snail feeding as it slowly crawled up the side of an aquarium, and, although I made no very accurate count, the tongue seemed to be pressed against the glass about forty times a minute.

Man and Object.

Two persons go out of the room and, after agreeing together as to what they shall represent, come back again and sit down side by side in front of the company. One of the two takes the part of some well known person, and the other represents an object which is closely connected with that person. For instance, George Washington and the hatchet or Roosevelt and the big stick, the king of England and his crown, etc.

After the two take their seats the other players in turn ask each of them a question, to which both the man and the object must answer only "Yes" or "No" until the right person and the right article have been guessed. The first player may perhaps ask the man, "Are you alive?" The man will answer "Yes" or "No" according to the character he represents. Then the object may be asked, "Are you made of wood?" "No." Then the second player in order asks a question of each, and so on along the line until all have had a turn at questioning or until the person and object have been rightly guessed.

A Giant Baby.

The world's astronomers are now much interested in the planet Jupiter. This planet is the largest in our system, but is said by the scientists to be an infant in swaddling clothes so far as development is concerned. In volume Jupiter is 1,279 times greater than our own globe. But we are now full grown and, as some astronomers declare, on the downhill side of life. In other words, our little earth is in middle age and will soon be growing old. Great Jupiter, the king of the heavens as far as our planetary system is concerned, is not yet fit for life. From the latest observations of Jupiter it is supposed to be in the act of building, or solidifying. One astronomer says: "I have not the slightest doubt that we are assisting at the creation of a world. Under our dazzled eyes a new world is being created in the infinity, and in Jupiter we hail the world of the future."—Chicago News.

Conundrums.

What is the difference between a photographer and the whooping cough? One makes facsimiles, the other sick families.

What French word contains every vowel and but one consonant? Oiseau.

When is an altered dress like a secret? When it is let out.

How do eggs show their anger on being called "heggs"? By becoming eggs-aspirated.

What part of speech are shopkeepers most anxious to dispose of? Articles.

Why are sick persons like auto wheels? Because they are tired.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Cupid's Target—A Game.

In the game Cupid's darts are shot from a small bow by each child in turn at a heart shaped target of white with a smaller red heart for a bullseye. The one whose dart comes nearest the middle of the bullseye may receive a gayly beribboned bow and arrow for a prize.

The Two Echoes.

Two echoes, each with mouth and ears, lived peacefully for many years. Till one, not meaning to offend, said: "Let me hear your voice, my friend. I know my voice is very fine. But which is finer, yours or mine?" "Mine," said the other, loud and clear. "Mine," said the first in tones severe. "Mine," said the other echo next. "Mine," said the first one, rather vexed. And "mine" was all that they would say. And neither of them would give way. For, though most echoes can be mute. If spoken to they will dispute. And I am sure these always will. For there they are disputing still. —Youth's Companion.

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Points for Mothers

Fresh Air For the Children.

One hour of bad air will do more harm than good air for the other twenty-three will undo; therefore keep the room well ventilated every moment of the day, says the Woman's Home Companion. If the rooms are large and open into each other one or two windows in the proper place will furnish fresh air for the whole house. In a small apartment we must select one room where the windows may be opened top and bottom and from which the fresh air may circulate without causing too much of a breeze or draft. At any cost keep the air good night and day.

The temperature of the room should be 65 to 70 degrees F. A thermometer should hang in the rooms that are most frequented by the children and at the height of their heads. Over heating is the commonest error in the city. Perhaps the most usual mistakes in the country are drafty rooms and floors and cold halls.

Babies, beginning at six weeks, should be taken out for their airing once a day and later two times—in winter when the sun is high and in summer when it is coolest. At six weeks an hour a day is sufficient; at six months three or four hours is a necessity; after that the more the better.

The sun should not shine into the unprotected eyes.

The only objection to going out is extremely cold weather (below zero), rain or snow and possibly sharp winds. When this outdoor airing is impossible the baby should be dressed for the street and put in the carriage close by the widely opened windows in the sun. In the city it is as necessary to have a carriage for the baby as it is to have a bed.

The sleeping room should have one or more windows wide open at top and bottom throughout the year. The bed should be as far away from the windows as possible, in a corner out of the direct draft. A blanket may be pinned around the crib when the winter winds blow directly upon it. The room should be cold and the night clothing warm. This does not apply to sickly infants nor to those under six weeks of age. However, the delicate child often requires fresh air even more than the well child. The appetite is improved and the strength increased by good pure air. Sleep also is often induced by the airing. Many a sick child who will not sleep in the house immediately sinks into a restful slumber as soon as he is put out in his carriage. Of course there is no objection to sleeping out of doors in sickness or in health.

Children's Habits.

Habits that are formed during the first year of a baby's life remain with the child for many years; therefore it is important for mothers and nurses to take care to establish good ones.

During the first few months a baby should live as much as possible by clockwork. Habits should be absolutely regular. Food should be given at the same hour each day, not a few minutes earlier because he cries for it or a bit later because he happens not to cry and mother is busy with other duties, but on the stroke of the hour prescribed by doctor or trained nurse.

He should be put to sleep at the same time every day, the nap hour being as regular as the hours when nourishment is given.

If medicine is ordered, this must be given according to the physician's directions.

Mothers are very apt to give medicine, especially soothing remedies that relieve colic pains or quiet a teething child, whenever fretful baby cries with pain.

This is not only wrong, but also very dangerous, and sometimes results in serious illness or death.

Teach him that when mother says "No" she means no; that when he is told to do something he must do it at once, cheerfully, without fret or worry. Very young children can be taught to be orderly, to fold their clothes neatly on a chair, to put shoes away in the closet and to pick up toys that have been scattered about the nursery. They can also be taught at a very early age to be clean about their person. When little hands and faces are soiled or sticky with sweets have them washed at once.

Teach them to use a handkerchief and that the towel is the proper article to dry wet hands on.

Of course train the children to be truthful. Little fibs of childhood, if overlooked, develop into dangerous lies as the child grows older.

In all things establish good habits in your children while they are young.

Grotesque Toys.

The penchant for toys that are worse than grotesque is ever increasing and worse things have succeeded to the Gollwog and the Teddy Bear.

In fact, it seems that the last invention must be just the limit, a sinister monkey that hops about in a lifelike fashion that is revolting.

Another toy which is calculated to give a nervous woman fits—the extremely realistic rat which is formed by a skin slipped over the hand and deftly manipulated.

We have a wholesome fear of the rodent in this capacity, even if we do not at all mind cuddling it round our neck and calling it crania.

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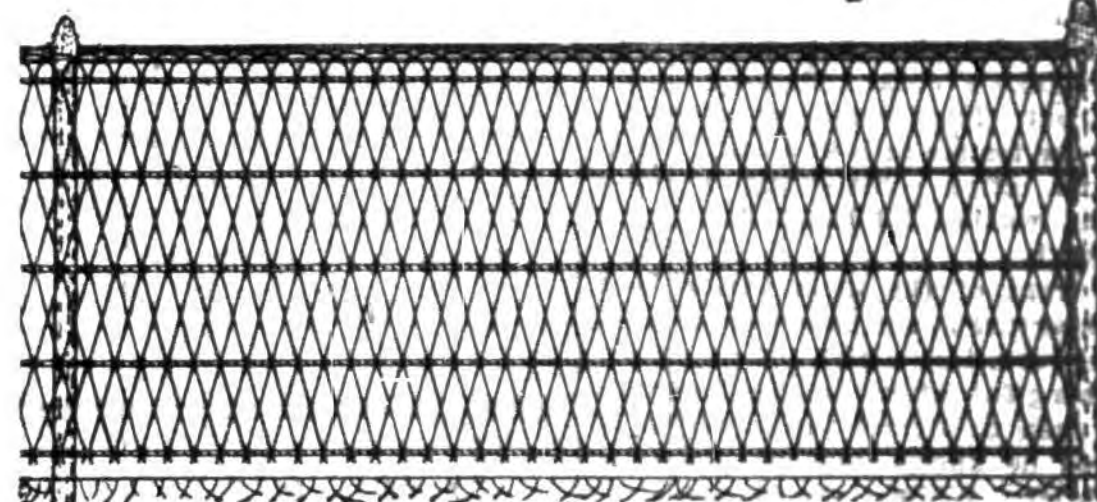
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